

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 6 is amended to correct an informality. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116(b)(1) because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance, for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration, as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; (c) and place the application in better form for appeal. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The Office Action newly rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §101 despite the claim having been in the same condition during examination under four previous Office Actions. Claim 6 is amended to obviate the rejection. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0121792 A1 to Allen et al. (Allen), in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0186883 A1 to Nyman et al. (Nyman) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,754,192 to Kennedy. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The combination of applied references would not have rendered obvious a method of extracting, at one node, routing information corresponding to an indicated type of information from the routing information exchanged by routing applications of nodes of an ad-hoc network on a transport or network layer of the ad-hoc network, with change-of-state notification means by which an application has previously been registered and forwarding the routing information extracted by the notification means to the application in the one node, so

that the application can exploit the routing information, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 6-8.

The Office Action, on page 4, acknowledges that Allen fails to disclose extracting the indicated type of information from routing information exchanged by routing applications of nodes on the network layer with said change of state notification means with which the application has previously been registered. The Office Action acknowledges that Allen fails to disclose forwarding the routing information extracted by the notification means to the application in one node, so that the application can exploit the routing information. The Office Action relies on Nyman as allegedly overcoming the deficiencies of Allen.

Nyman discloses a method and apparatus for accessing the World Wide Web using a mobile terminal or other wireless communication device (Nyman, paragraph [0001]). Nyman illustrates, in Fig. 6, a flowchart depicting the essential steps of a method of operation of a message sending entity and a message receiving entity. In step 64, an application layer protocol handler of a host of the invoking application creates an XML-based message encapsulated in an XML-based application protocol header constructed to identify the target application, and sends the XML-based message to a host of the target application. In step 65, the host of the target application receives the XML-based message and detects from the header that the XML-based message is to be forwarded to a target-side application layer protocol handler also hosted by the host of the target application. Finally, in step 66, the target-side application layer protocol handler receives the encapsulated XML-based message and determines the target application to be invoked based on the header, extracts the XML-based message, invokes the target application and passes the XML-based message to the target application (Nyman, paragraph [0055]).

Nyman further discloses a protocol stack and XML-based message formats making it possible for an application hosted by a message-sending entity to invoke an application

hosted by the message-receiving entity. The stack includes an application layer protocol handler, and applications are registered with the application layer protocol handler so as to be able to receive messages from a message-sending entity based on a specific application-identifier included in the message (Nyman, paragraph [0057]). The arriving application messages are then dispatched to the correct application via a mechanism that makes it simple to create and register new applications (Nyman, paragraph [0058]).

The Office Action asserts that the specific application identifier of Nyman corresponds to the claimed routing information. The Office Action asserts that extracting the XML-based message encapsulated in the XML-based application protocol header and dispatching the arrived application messages of Nyman corresponds to the claimed steps of extracting routing information and forwarding routing information.

However, the XML-based message of Nyman cannot reasonably be considered to correspond to the claimed routing information. The XML-based message is not related to routing. Rather, the XML-based message acts in response to, or upon request of, an exchange between the invoking application and the invoked application (Nyman, paragraph [0054]). Steps 65 and 66 of Nyman disclose that the XML-based message contains high-level application content information passed to and received by the target application. That is, the XML-based message only invokes the target application and does not have routing information. Thus, Nyman would not have rendered obvious the extracting step of routing information and the forwarding step of routing information, as claimed.

Additionally, when the specific application identifier of Nyman delivers the XML-based message to the intended, invoked application, the XML-based message is extracted from the encapsulated message and the header that comprises the identifier is deleted. Thus, when the XML-based message is passed to the intended, invoked application, the identifier is no longer present. That is, the specific application identifier, allegedly corresponding to the

claimed routing information, does not pass routing information to the intended, invoked application. Thus, Nyman would not have rendered obvious extracting at the one node routing information from routing information exchanged by routing applications of nodes, as claimed.

The combination of applied references also would not have rendered obvious a method of registering at least one application with a change-of-state notification means provided on one node, wherein registering comprises indicating to the change-of-state notification means, during the registering, a type of routing information that is of interest for the at least one application being registered, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 6-8.

Allen discloses a multi-routing protocol network and methods of operating wireless devices in the network that allow the network to be switched from one routing protocol to another (Allen, Abstract). Allen illustrates, in Fig. 4, a flow chart of a method 400 of operating a wireless device of networks (Allen, paragraph [0027]). In step 406, the "kth device" listens for a command to operate according to a specified routing protocol for a predetermined amount of time (Allen, paragraph [0030]). This command can be sent from a wireless device that has supervisory authority for the network or a part of the network comprising the "kth device" (Allen, paragraph [0031]). During operation of the "kth device" a command may be received instructing the "kth device" to operate according to another routing protocol from a wireless device that is located at the root position (Allen, paragraph [0033]).

The Office Action asserts that the command to operate another routing protocol of Allen corresponds to the claimed routing information and change-of-state notification means.

However, the wireless device of Allen is at the root position, which is located external to the considered network node. That is, the wireless device is separate from the "kth device"

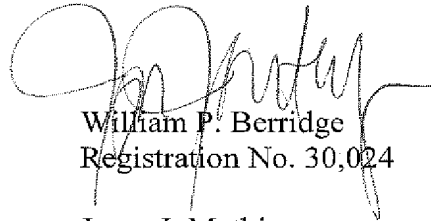
and not of the same node. Thus, Allen fails to disclose any feature that can reasonably be considered to correspond to a change-of-state notification means provided on one node, as claimed. For at least these reasons, the combination of applied references would not have rendered obvious all the features recited in independent claims 1 and 6-8.

Kennedy fails to overcome the deficiencies of Allen and Nyman as discussed above. Accordingly, the combination of applied references would not have rendered obvious the features recited in claims 2-5 and 9 for at least the dependence of these claims on claim 1 and for the separately patentable features that these claims recite. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



William P. Berridge
Registration No. 30,024

Jomy J. Methipara
Registration No. 67,248

WPB:JXM/hs

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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